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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

10-1-1953

Justice (Vol. 35, Iss. 19)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

NEW YORK ILGWU MEMBERS:

REGISTER

FOR CLEAN INDEPENDENT
CITY GOVERNMENT

AND ENROLL LIBERAL PARTY

OCT. 5 & 10

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXV. No. 19

Jersey City, N. J., October 1, 1953

Price 10 Cents

35 Hr. Clause Won by:

N. Y. Rainwear

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N. J. Washable Dress

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Phila. Alteration

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Royal Robes in Multi-Plant Pact

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ILGWU Resolution Hits Slave Labor

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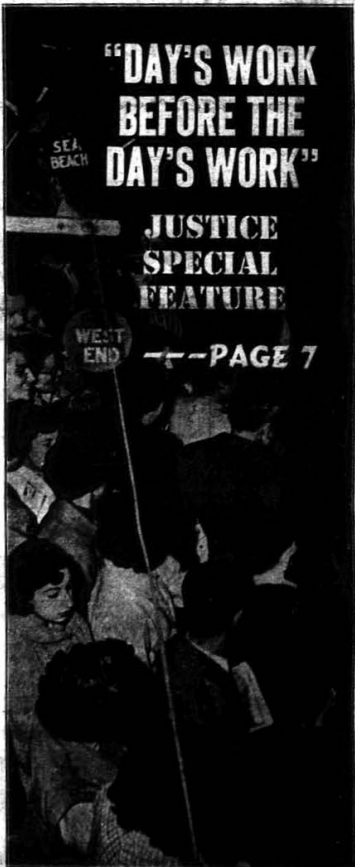
**"DAY'S WORK
BEFORE THE
DAY'S WORK"**

SEA
BEACH

**JUSTICE
SPECIAL
FEATURE**

WEST
END

—PAGE 7



N. Y. Rainwear Wins 35 Hours

Full agreement has been reached between Local 20 and the New York Raincoat Manufacturers' Assn. on terms of a renewed collective agreement which will establish the 35-hour work week in the rainwear industry of that city, it is reported by Joseph Kessler, manager of the Waterproof Garment Workers' local. Raincoat workers have been on a 37½-hour week until now.

Negotiations for the renewal of the pact were conducted during July and August. According to Kessler, they were touched off by the request of the union for an up-

ward wage adjustment under terms of the contract then scheduled to expire in July, 1934.

The employer group, pleading that orders already placed had been cost-calculated on the basis of existing wage schedules and that the

unreasonable, long dry spell had cut the volume of business, made a counter proposal which Local 20 negotiators said would not satisfy the request of the raincoat workers.

At this point the parties presented the issues in the submitted regulations to Pres. David Dubinsky. As the result of his intervention agreement was reached on terms.

These include extension of the present contract to July, 1934. At the same time the industry is to reduce hours to 35 starting in January, 1934. Compensating wage increases, averaging 1 per cent, are to be given to piece workers.

Cutters who are already on 35-hour schedules are to receive a 40 wage boost; those who are to have their schedules reduced to 35 hours will receive the same wage in that time as they earned until now on the longer work week.

A Local 20 ratification meeting is scheduled to be held in the Hotel Diplomat on Oct. 4. Negotiations, in addition to Manager Kessler, included Mos Finkman, manager of Eastern Local 10, and Morris Philip, Phil Duglin, Isidor Alshuler and Sol Immerman.

duction to items which brought it within Local 105's jurisdiction. It was on the basis of this shift that Local 105 acted.

Victory in Strike Gives '105'ers Wage, Hr. Gains

A 45-day strike of 120 workers at the Marco Polo Mills ended in a major victory for Local 105 last month when the firm signed a union agreement which reduced hours to 35 and raised wages. Manager Martin L. Cohen announced. The company, also known as Well Made Bloomer Co., had been non-union for 40 years.

The chief gains won by the strikers were a reduction in weekly working hours from 40 to 35, an immediate 10 per cent wage increase and a provision for an additional five per cent wage increase in January, 1934.

The strike, which began in August, was supported by mass picketing, in which the ranks of the strikers were supplemented by other members of Local 105 and by members of the local's executive board, including Chairman Bernard Lederman and Vice Chairman Charles Sachs. The picketing, during which "tramp" of "We want a union shop" and "No contract, no work" were streamed, continued right through the August heat wave even though three pickets were arrested by police.

Staff Pitches in

The entire Local 105 staff—Assistant Manager George Karp, Business Agents Herbert Gershon, Belle Citrin, Howard Levine, temporary organizer Mary Fernandez, who is a member of the local's executive board, and Douglas Levin, "105" organization director, who was in charge of the strike—look turns at picket duty.

By the time the agreement was signed on Sept. 18, no more than a handful of strike-breakers had crossed the picket line.

At one point, the employer refused to attend an NLRB hearing on the grounds that he was afraid to leave his office and go through the picket line, but the picket captain, bearing of this, quickly arranged to give him a "guard of honor."

Participating in negotiations with Manager Cohen was Local 105 Attorney Abraham Schlesinger, who also represented the union at National Labor Relations Board hearings and in Magistrate Court. State Mediator Burton Tamm, who achieved fame as a New York District Attorney, was of "very great help in reaching an agreement," Cohen said.

"The biggest factor in our victory was the wonderful morale of the strikers," he pointed out, and he praised the staff for "showing the kind of loyalty and spirit of which any union would be proud."

Though the firm has operated on a non-union basis for 40 years, it only recently shifted its pro-

ILGWU Members in New York City

YOU CAN VOTE IF YOU DON'T REGISTER!

To Vote November 3 for
HALLEY - CANUDO - MELLEN

FOR better schools AGAINST sales tax
FOR more hospitals AGAINST fare increases
FOR more housing AGAINST rent increases

REGISTER!

In New York City and Westchester register

October 3, 6, 7, 9, 9 from 3:30 P.M. to 10:30 P.M.
October 10 (Saturday) from 7 A.M. to 10:30 P.M.

In New York State cities and villages of 5,000 or more register

October 2, 3, and 9 from 9 A.M. to 10 P.M.
October 10 (Saturday) from 7 A.M. to 10 P.M.

In centers of less than 5,000 consult local authorities for time and manner of registering and enrolling.

Enroll When You Register!

Don't fail to
enroll
for the
BEST
candidate



For
the BEST candidate
the BEST party
the BEST program

ENROLL LIBERAL PARTY

Greenfield Workers In Tennessee Win Five-Cent Increases

Workers in the Greenfield Manufacturing Co. shops in Greenfield, Martin and Dresden, Tenn., began receiving a 5-cent hourly wage boost as of the first week in September with the signing of an agreement reached with the union last month.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

By David Williams

Bankers Show Delight Over Republican Monetary Policies

WASHINGTON—"The biggest thing since immigration day"—that's how Washington's happy bankers described the recent convention here at the American Bankers' Association.

"Fifteen-dollar corsets, cutaway-bands, the very best in hotel suites, champagne, and buffet spreads are being served up at the bankers' orders all over town," said Washington Post, a hotel manager pointed out.

"These bankers are no poor boys at a picnic. They really know how to do things up right!"

"They water-proofed us to death," said the Blatter Flower Shop. "Champagne for breakfast, different continental for lunch, still others for dinner . . . we've never had so many orders."

Almost four million dollars were spent here by 7,500 bankers, 1,500 of whom brought their wives. It was the grandest affair that has been seen here for many a month. And at Constitution Hall, the Santa Clara, Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, whose policy of high interest rates has unleashed a golden flood upon the nation's banks, he had more good news for them.

"The excess profits tax will expire on December 31 and there will be no request for renewal from this Administration. At the same time an average 10 per cent reduction in income taxes is scheduled to go into effect, and it will become effective."

There was no shadow of the grave questions of national security raised by Mahan's announcement that the Soviet Union possesses the H-bomb. No echo of President Eisenhower's declaration in Boston that the day before there is no service—no labor, no tax, no service—no hard for us to hear to support the nation's banks.

A logical and necessary defense of freedom," Mr. Humphrey said, and the bankers, according to the White House, had been cleared with the President before they were spoken.

What about the 866 question? In the first Republican Administration in two decades—can it forever and take measures to avert an economic depression? As for fiscal aid, Mr. Humphrey could give the bankers was the quip that "my crystal ball is no bigger and brighter than yours."

With regard to the falling prices in the stock market since Eisenhower took office, Humphrey said: "It may well be that, as the fear of inflation declines, some evil-doers are taking place from stocks to bonds or cash," but then limited at darker possibilities: "It may also be that there is some fear of declining earnings as certain supplies become scarcer and more expensive."

"That," he hastened to add, as the bankers felt the icy whiff of 1929, "is nothing to shiver about."

It seemed, however, that even the bankers were hedging their bets on the Big Deal. The advance publicity for their confab had located of the eleven top bankers serving on the Eisenhower "team." But, when ARA President W. Harold Brewster was quizzed about this, he mentioned that many bankers had served under Roosevelt and Truman and hurried on to another subject.

Perhaps the bankers were liked at two foldings they have recently received from the Administration. Viewing with alarm the current stagnation in home-building, Housing Administrator Cole threatened that if the banks did not loosen up on mortgage credit, the Government might have to provide some itself. And elsewhere there were rumblings about passing on deposits in the face of interest some of the Humphrey-high income bankers are making in.

Or it may be that, like millions of other Americans, they were worried about layoffs, cuts in production schedules, falling farm prices. Could it be that a business Administration is bad for business?

EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN

2,200 in New Jersey Cut Work Week to 35 Hours

Over 2,200 children's dressmakers in 54 shops of the New Jersey Washable Dress Assn. will have their weekly working hours reduced from 40 to 37½ next month, according to an agreement negotiated by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department. In addition, the work week will be further re-

duced, to 35 hours, within one year. From the date it becomes effective to the New York Children's Dress Trade, Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, ROT general manager, reported that.

The workers, the bulk of whom are members of Local 220 and 221, managed by Rade Scheraga, can look forward to the following schedule for the reduction of their working hours without any loss of pay.

Effective Nov. 2, the weekly working hours are reduced from 40 to 37½ with piece workers receiving a compensating increase of 6½ per cent, and work workers receiving the same pay for 37½ hours as they previously received for 40 hours.

It was further agreed that when the 35-hour week becomes effective, one year after New York Children's

Dressmakers Local 91 achieves it, the New Jersey piece workers will receive an additional 7½ per cent increase, and work workers will receive the same pay for 35 hours as they previously received for 37½.

When the 37½-hour week and the 35-hour week are in effect, overtime shall begin immediately after the daily regular working hours and shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half to both piece and work workers.

The agreement also provided for increases in minimum wages. Cutters were raised to \$70 weekly, operators and pressers to \$25, and floor workers to \$34. Vice Pres. Horowitz, assisted by Rade Scheraga, concluded the negotiations on behalf of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

ILG Resolutions Approved by AFL Convention

Acting on a resolution submitted by the ILGWU delegation attending its St. Louis Convention, the American Federation of Labor last month called for the establishment in the United Nations of a permanent committee on forced labor. The historic labor convention, the first over which George Meany presided as president, made important decisions pertaining to domestic as well as overseas affairs.

Members of the ILGWU delegation were David Dubinsky, who served on the Committee on Executive Council's Report; Charles S. Zimmerman, Resolutions Committee; Luigi Antonini, Law Committee; Julius Hochman, Labor Committee; Louis Nelson; Meyer Perstein, Committee on Shorter Work Day; Jennie Matyas, Education Committee; and Isidore Nagler, International Labor Relations Committee.

Key interest at the convention centered around the resignation of Martin P. Durkin as Secretary of Labor and the appearance of Vice Pres. Nixon on the convention platform. It also focused on the AFL action withdrawing the charter from the longshoremen's organization in New York City.

JUSTICE Reprint Read

On opening day of the convention, Sept. 21, delegates received a reprint of the Sept. 15 JUSTICE editorial page which, in addition to supporting Secretary Durkin's resignation, reported part of a report appearing in the Wall St. Journal of Sept. 4 revealing the plan to "get" Durkin. Pres. Meany read the excerpt to the delegates the following day.

The three ILGWU resolutions submitted to the convention received favorable action.

The resolution on slave labor recommended the delegates that it was the AFL's initiative in 1947 that set off the activities which ultimately brought world-wide attention to the problem of forced labor. It pointed out that with the publication of the recent report on forced labor the only UN committee dealing with this problem had completed its work. It urged formation of a permanent committee.

An ILGWU resolution on the Mutual Security Administration cited the crucial work done by persons from labor's ranks in post-war economic reconstruction in Europe but added that because labor's suggestions for reorganization of MSA have been ignored the work of members of that agency is not to be taken as representing AFL policy.

A third ILGWU resolution pointed out that leading figures of the governing party in West Germany, under pressure from industrialists who built the Hitler movement, are proposing to subject the German Federation of Labor to state domination. It called upon the U. S. Government to keep in mind that a genuinely free labor movement is the best foundation for German democracy and urged the ICPTU to rally full support to the German Federation of Labor.

Comment from the floor on the report of the Committee on International Labor Relations was made by Delegate Luigi Antonini, who hailed the convention stand pertaining to Trieste.

Highlights of the historic events and decisions of this 72nd annual convention of the AFL include the following:

Nixon Talks

1. Vice President Nixon delivered a message from President Eisenhower attempting to allay the Administration for failure to carry through on an agreement to amend the Taft-Hartley Act.

2. Former Secretary of Labor Martin Durkin gave the delegates a detailed story of his agreement with the President and charged Eisenhower had broken faith.

3. AFL President George Meany declared that the "greedy few" had taken over the Administration in Washington, and that increased political action is necessary to pre-

fect the interests of the American people.

4. The International Longshoremen's Association was expelled from the AFL.

5. The number of vice presidents of the federation was increased from 13 to 15.

6. The convention recommended the establishment of a public advisory group, with labor participation, to consult with the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, and called for a Labor-Management Advisory Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission to help maintain peaceful and equitable labor-management relations in the industry.

7. Establishment was authorized for a William Green Memorial Fund to honor the memory of the man who served as AFL president for 28 years.

8. The delegates called for the national defense program to be carried on at full blast until peace and the security of the free way of life have been assured.

9. The convention urged the government to supplement and, where necessary, to regulate the free flow of economic life, and to maintain a realistic budget and fiscal policy attuned to a new and expanding economy. It said that an economic depression can be avoided by careful planning and an economy of plenty based on progressive higher living standards.

10. The convention said that Congress and state legislatures must strengthen the Social Security program so that it can more effectively provide for the needs of elderly people, and that the legislature must improve and strengthen state unemployment insurance laws.

11. The convention warned that affiliated unions must be prepared to reinforce wage advances which have been made since the end of wage stabilization.

12. Unanimous approval of the no-raiding pact with the CIO.

13. Adoption of a plan for for-

Justice Cartoonist Wins Labor Press First Prize

Bernard Seaman, JUSTICE staff cartoonist, has again won first prize for the best original cartoon appearing in an international union publication. The award, presented by the International Labor Press of America in the form of a merit plaque, was announced at the annual ILPA dinner held in St. Louis just prior to the opening of the 72nd annual AFL Convention. The awards were made by a board of judges composed of the faculty of the School of Journalism at the University of Michigan.

mulation, in a calm and judicious atmosphere, of machinery for ending jurisdictional strife among AFL affiliates.

14. Complete endorsement of former Secretary of Labor Martin P. Durkin and unanimous condemnation of President Eisenhower for breaking an agreement to recommend to Congress 19 amendments to the Taft-Hartley Act.

15. Renewed determination to keep up the fight for revision and rectification of the "viciously one-sided, anti-labor provisions" of that law even though the Durkin resignation "raises a grave question over the future attitude of the present Administration toward labor legislation."

16. Forging of a strong legislative program for 1954, including a broad housing program, Social Security improvements, federal aid to education, civil rights legislation, strengthening of the Department of Labor, protection for Federal government employees and fair taxes for all.

17. Adoption of an equally strong foreign policy program, calling for a top-level conference of the leaders of the free world to cement unity, shun appeasement and agree on a joint stand with regard to specific world problems.

18. Chartering of a new AFL International Longshoremen's Asso-

YORK



Tribune

Published Daily in New York

NUMBER 20, 1953

Dulles Calls New Soviet 'Ultimate Peril to Man'



Secretary of State John Foster Dulles (left) and David Dubinsky, of German Workers Union, in a happy mood at the A. F. L. convention, where Mr. Dulles spoke yesterday.

6 'Consultants' in

New York Herald-Tribune front-page picture of Pres. Dubinsky chatting with Secretary of State Dulles at AFL Convention.

cation to replace the gangster-controlled group ousted by the convention and serve as a clean, democratic and aggressive collective bargaining representative for the nation's dock workers.

19. Reaffirmation of the AFL's determination to engage in a stepped-up political drive next year to elect a liberal Congress in the 1954 elections in order to keep labor's gains from being wiped out.

CHILDREN'S DRESS DEMANDS OKAYED BY SHOP LEADERS

Shop leaders of the children's wear industry in New York enthusiastically endorsed on Sept. 23 a call for the establishment of the 35-hour week and other terms that Local 91 will seek to embody in a renewed collective agreement. It is reported by Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg, manager of the Children's Dressmakers' Union. The current contract is scheduled to expire Dec. 31, 1953.

Chairman and chairladies, their assistants and members of price committees lustily cheered the union's demands as they were read to the high-spirited meeting at Local 91 headquarters. Manager Greenberg told the assembled shop leaders that the reduction of the work week from 37½ to 35 hours, in the terms being sought by the union, would mean no loss in earnings. Piece rates would be increased to compensate for the shortened work period.

Other Demands

At the same time the union is seeking a general increase for all workers. It will also ask that all minimum rates be raised, that holiday benefits be improved, that employer responsibility for observing terms of the agreement be continued as long as member firms continue to produce the same articles, and that the same terms be extended to cover any work done in Puerto Rico for members of the employers' association. Manager Greenberg told the meeting: "We must act, through our union to win the higher wage and at the same time to work for the election of legislators who will act for the best welfare of working people."

"Won't Come Off!"



EOT-IE Drive Bags Royal Robes Multi-Plan Pact

Implementing the recent decision of the ILGWU General Executive Board calling for the establishment of a master agreement in all multi-plant situations, the Eastern Out-of-Town Department and the Northeast Department last month concluded a master pact with the Royal Robes Inc., covering the firm's plants in Woonsocket, R. I., and New London and Norwich, Conn.; it was announced jointly by Vice Presidents David Glogind and Israel Horowitz, heads of the Northeast and Eastern Out-of-Town Departments, respectively.

The outstanding provision in the agreement, which covers approximately 600 workers in the three shops, was the reduction to weekly working hours from 40 to 35 during the holidays of the collective pact.

Under the terms of the contract, effective last week, hours were increased from 40 to 37 1/2 with pieceworkers receiving a 6 per cent compensating increase, and week workers receiving the same pay for 37 1/2 hours as they previously received for 40 hours.

A further reduction in hours will take effect Jan. 1, 1959, when workers go down to 35 weeks. Piece workers will get the same pay for 35 hours as they previously received for 37 1/2.

Holidays Uppe

Important holidays benefits were also in this agreement. The most significant was the inclusion of employer contributions to the Employees Fund, not included in the previous agreements. Paid holidays were increased from three to six for all piece and week workers.

With the contract scheduled to expire on Dec. 31, 1958, a union clause was added giving the union the right to reopen wage talks for any reason whatsoever any time after June 1, 1958. This is in addition to the standard cost-of-living provision which gives the union the right to ask for an increase when consumer indexes show a steep rise in living costs.

In addition to Vice Presidents Horowitz and Glogind, participants in the negotiations included Fred Blum, manager of the Pitt River area, and a committee of rank-and-file workers.

Two Maine Locals Merge For Better Efficiency

Two Maine affiliates—Local 371 in Portland and Local 523 in Bangor—have been merged to "better serve the interests of our union in that state," according to Vice Pres. David Glogind, director of the Northeast Department. The combined unit will function as Bangor Local 523 and has jurisdiction throughout the state of Maine.

JUSTICE

International Labor Council
Workers' Union

Office of Publication:
201 Bennett Ave., Jersey City, N. J.
Editorial Office:
8710 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.
The Columbia Edition

DAVID GLOGIND, President
and General Secretary-Treasurer
LEON STEIN, Editor

Subscription price paid in advance
\$2.00 a year

Entered as Second Class matter
Feb. 1, 1948, at the Post Office at
Jersey City, N. J., under the Act
of March 3, 1879.

Vol. XXXV, Oct. 1, 1958 No. 18

Signed and Sealed



Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, manager of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, supervises signing of contract with leaders of New Jersey Woolen Dress Amalgam that brought reduction in hours to 2,200 children's dressmakers. Sadie Reuch, manager of Locals 220 and 251, is at Horowitz's left.

NEW YORK TOWN

Israel Feinberg Memorial Fund Started by N. Y. Cloakmakers

The establishment of a \$100,000 Israel Feinberg Memorial Fund was approved at a special meeting of the New York Cloak Joint Board held on Sept. 16 to mark the first anniversary of the passing of its departed leader.

In his report to the delegates, General Manager Isidor Nagler stated that the joint board had been giving consideration for some time to a tribute to Feinberg that would commemorate his name. The matter was brought to the attention of the recent ILGWU convention through the Resolution Committee, which left the exact nature of the tribute up to the joint board. The board unanimously adopted the proposal to honor Feinberg's memory by establishing a fund in his name. For the next ten years, the Board of Trustees of the fund will announce a contribution of \$10,000 to a cause or institution with which Feinberg was identified throughout his lifetime.

Board Named

Vice Pres. David Dubinsky has agreed to serve as chairman of the Board of Trustees administering the Fund, with General Manager Isidor Nagler as Secretary-Treasurer. Other members of the Board of Trustees include cloak local managers Joseph Brudner, Benjamin Kaplan, Louis Ryan, Edward Moland, Moe Palkman, George Busch and Louis Reuch and the joint board is also extending invitations to First Vice Pres. Louis Antebi and Vice Presidents Julius Hochman, Charles Kravitz, Morris Blum, Meyer Perlestein and Samuel Oles.

In view of the fact that various affiliates of the International have expressed a desire to participate in such a memorial fund, a call will be issued in time for those

Join the cloakmakers in this undertaking.

The joint board further decided to provide Mrs. Nellie Feinberg, widow of the late cloak leader, with a lifetime pension of \$100 a month.

Feinberg Praised

General Manager Isidor Nagler, addressing the assembled officers, delegates and active members, spoke of Feinberg's many years of loyal and devoted service to the union as a general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, as a vice president of the ILGWU, and as its leader in many sections of our country and Canada. Feinberg was little concerned with personal gain, Nagler stressed, but was rather deeply devoted to high idealistic and spiritual values. His life, he declared, was completely absorbed in the struggle of all working people, particularly at that of the garment workers.

Nagler described the many movements left by Feinberg in labor's great struggle for improved working conditions, a movement in which he so nobly participated. Perhaps the greatest of Feinberg's legacies, Nagler said, is the Retirement Fund of the Coat and Suit Industry, the pioneer venture in the field of industry-wide, employee-funded pension plans for workers. The late general manager of the "Cloakmakers' Union" was also supported by Joint Board President and Local 117 Chairman, Rubin Zuckerman. Vice Presidents Louis Ryan, Joseph Brudner and George Rubin and Local 10 Executive Secretary Howard Melton.

IN THE MARKET

By Leon Stein

Taking Risks Is Often the Way To Higher Sales, Bigger Profits

Jay D. Runkle, general manager of Crowley, Miller and Co. of Detroit last month took a job shot at manufacturers and retailers for playing the game too close to the vest. He charged them with refusing to take the risks which are the spice of business. "If they continue playing things so easy they are going to take us right into a depression," he warned.



Mr. Runkle is right. In an industry which deals with fickle fashion all the way from design to sale of product all factors look for ways of avoiding the risks that are inseparable from the business. The way to do it is to shift the cost of risk to those who need your business.

If there is any justification for the profit the retailer makes it lies in his duty to try to anticipate the needs and desires of his customers. The retailer who takes the trouble to do that may make mistakes, misjudgments and bad buys. But chances are that he will retain and gain new customers by displaying goods attractive to his clientele, more so with the manufacturer who addresses a manufacturer into special releases on special-quick numbers.

General observations and breaks on price for certain items provide customer built, not stock. They shift the cost of retail risks to the manufacturer, who is taking his own chances.

Those, on the level of production, lie in making the successful combination of style, material, workmanship and promotion that every producer wants. On this level also it is possible to find ways of avoiding the ordinary costs of risks. But the manufacturer, unlike many retailers, has learned that he must spread his style variety wide in order to catch buyers' fancies. And it is standard experience to discover that what turns out to be a bonanza hang side by side in the sample rooms with new items destined, to become routine.

The tendency of business leaders is to minimize risk in time of sharp correction for business. Generally, it is when sales are at a high level that they are ready to "take chances."

But it would seem to this observer that this procedure should be reversed. When sales are high in the apparel business, it is by expressing their satisfaction with the goods being offered. When sales taper off, on the other hand, there is clear indication that what is being offered is not meeting consumer preference.

It is then that the need for risk, for taking chances, for using some of the property rights to boost sales becomes pressing. When manufacturer and retailer take this lesson to heart they will also learn that failure to take risks can lose sales; that reasonable risks, as Mr. Runkle tagged them, can be the way to higher sales and profits.

SOUTHWEST

Confab Yields Pay Rises For 600 in Minn. Shops

Over 600 workers employed by member firms of the cloak and dress division of the Minnesota Apparel Industries have received wage boosts as a result of a conference between employer and employer spokesman held in Minneapolis on Sept. 12, Vice Pres. Meyer Perlestein, Southwest Regional director, announced.

The increases, which became effective Sept. 28, include the following: 1 1/2 cents hourly for cutters; six cents an hour for all other line workers; and five cents hourly for piece workers; to be added weekly to their total earnings.

Nine dress shops and two cloak firms are involved in the agreement, which was concluded only after several months of negotiations. Among Perlestein at the final conference were Minnesota Joint Board Manager Michael Fichtelstein, Delores Johnson, member of the organizational staff, and a committee of workers.

An agreement providing wage increases of one cent hourly for line workers and 8 cents an hour for piece workers in the St. Croix, Wis. shop of the United States Fur Co. was reached in Minnesota.



NEW YORK ILGWU MEMBERS

REGISTER

FOR CLEAN INDEPENDENT
CITY GOVERNMENT

AND ENROLL LIBERAL PARTY

BUSINESS

Open Drive to Organize Dress Shipping Clerks in New York

Plans to unionize the shipping clerks of the New York dress industry were announced last week by Jack Spitzer, manager of Local 60, Dress and Waist Pressers' Union. At its meeting last month the ILGWU General Executive Board authorized the drive and put Spitzer in charge.

The shipping clerks will be organized as Shipping Clerks Union, Local 60-A, ILGWU, with headquarters at 601 Eighth Ave., N. Y. C. Resolving plans for a "whirlwind" organization drive, Spitzer said: "We will spare no effort to win union status and job security for the unorganized shipping clerks in this trade."

"For too many years the shipping clerks have been economic second-class citizens," he declared. "They have suffered the thousand indignities of unorganized workers. Many are first at the whip of a boss. Others are forced to work late into the night and week-ends."

"We say to the shipping clerks: Enjoy the many benefits that the garment workers' union has struggled for and achieved over the last 20 years. They are entitled to union standards."

Preliminary announcements in the New York general and foreign language newspapers and over local radio stations brought a flood of pledges of support and numerous inquiries from individual shipping clerks.

Spitzer expressed appreciation to union members, especially the large number of dress pressers, who pledged their time, energy and even personal funds to ensure the complete success of the organizational drive.

The first meeting of the shipping clerks' Action Committee was held on Sept. 21. After a briefing by Manager Spitzer, the shipping clerks who attended pledged conditional support and service until their fellow shipping clerks were organized. They covered the many statements of support and voiced determination to organize the shipping clerks 100 per cent.

The dress industry shipping clerks represent the last 20 per cent of the union in the trade to be unionized. The shipping clerks have always been plagued by job insecurity and low wages as compared to other crafts.

An evaluation of employees' sentiment indicates that they realize the union is ready to exert every ounce of its strength to organize the shipping clerks.

WORKERS IN SEVEN PHILA. STORES WIN REDUCTION IN HOURS

Workers in seven Philadelphia department stores and specialty shops have begun working on a 37½ hour week, as a result of an agreement concluded on Sept. 24. It was announced by Louis Bickel, manager of Ladies Tailors, Alterations and Custom Dressmakers' Local 75.

The reduced work week went into effect Sept. 28, and hours will be cut still further in December, 1953, when a net work week of 35 hours will be established. The agreement also calls for wage co-operation which in August, 1954, if consumer price indexes show a steep rise in living costs.

Although all the stores are open six days a week, no employee will put in more than 37½, according to a reduction system worked out by the union. All Local 75's in these shops are work workers.

Needle Trades Asked to Help Employ Disabled

All recent studies on handicapped workers point up facts which are slowly reviving America's concepts of the abilities of physically handicapped persons. These facts are: handicapped workers are as efficient as those without handicaps; they lose no more time on the job; their productivity is slightly higher.

Despite these facts, and despite the practice of almost 1,000,000 handicapped persons in this country's work-force, prejudice against persons with physical disabilities still exists. It is for this reason that the week of Oct. 4 through Oct. 19 has been designated National Employ the Physically Handicapped (NKP) Week. In his proclamation, President Eisenhower said the operation of all "to order to relieve the widest possible support of programs designed to increase the opportunities in employment of the physically handicapped."

Although the needle trades industries of New York have a non-economic good record with regard to hiring the handicapped, much more can be done. The New York State Development Service says needle trades employers to consider that a physical handicap is not necessarily a job handicap. Where skilled workers are in short supply, the hiring or training of handicapped persons is a particularly desirable measure.

During NKP Week and throughout the year, NYSDS is ready to cooperate with all needle trades employers in employing the handicapped. Specialists in handicapped placement will make every effort to find the right person for each specific job. Remember—Ability, Not Disability, Counts.

Hatters Float Loan To Help Finance Connecticut Strike

The AFL Hatters Union has launched a \$500,000 loan drive among its members in support of fight against the Hat Corporation of America at South Norwalk, Conn., where 1,500 workers are out on strike because the company wants to leave town. The ILGWU was already loaned \$100,000 to the hatsters in this effort.

The union is offering three-year loans at 4 per cent interest, and setting up a reserve to redeem bonds earlier for those who because of emergencies will need the money. Meanwhile, the amount of \$1 per member per week will continue for the duration.

The union's executive board tried out the plan with a small group of New York cap makers. In less than an hour the small group subscribed \$25,000 to the loan fund. The same day, officers of the New York Joint board subscribed \$20,000. When the strike started, the International assigned \$100,000 of its treasury for strike benefits. The New York cap makers' local advanced \$20,000 and the Millinery Workers \$100,000.

SOUTHWEST

Two Suits Filed Against Seamprufe in Oklahoma

Two law suits against the Seamprufe plants in McAlester and Holdenville, Okla., were filed by the union in district courts during the week of Sept. 13. Southwest Regional Director Meyer Perlinstein reports.

The suit against the McAlester shop charges that two company officials slandered both a union member and the ILGWU itself, and that they were supported throughout

by the Seamprufe management. Wanda Jean Morris, president of Local 184, brought the action after she and other union members made slanderous statements were made about Wanda Lee Lyles, an employee of the firm, and about the union, in which it was charged that "ILGWU is Communist" among other slanders.

The suit asks for a total of \$200,000 in damages, on the ground that the slander was compounded when it was ratified by the company itself. In addition to Morris, Mel Warren and Eunice Minicini are complainants in the suit brought against Seamprufe.

The petition filed by the union in Federal Court against the Holdenville shop asks that a local ordinance which made the area around Seamprufe "private property" be declared unconstitutional. Union attorneys charge that the ordinance was passed overnight and at the insistence of Seamprufe, in order to prevent union organizers from distributing leaflets at the plant. Several organizers were arrested and fined on the strength of the ordinance.

N.Y. Cloak Retirees' Deadline: Oct. 15

All cloakmakers who wish to retire in 1954 are reminded that they must submit applications to their local union office by Oct. 15. Since it takes some time to process all applications, some will be accepted after that date, it has been announced by Harry Krugman, manager of the Retirement Fund.

Since 1945 the fund has retired 1,683 cloakmakers and paid close to \$75,000,000 in benefits. Almost 200 people have been retired this year, and at least that many are expected to be added to the fund's rolls in 1954.

Retirements of workers whose applications are approved will take place only during the month of January in each year.

"We Want the Union!"



Announcement of drive to organize shipping clerks of New York dress trade gets hearty assent by clerks assembled to aid in start of campaign. Local 60 Manager Jack Spitzer, right, who heads the drive, is presenting first union card of new Local 60-A.

NORTHEAST

\$21,000 Back Pay Won for Former Somerset Employees

Twenty-one thousand dollars in back pay was obtained by the union for 71 former employees of the now-defunct Somerset Classics, Inc., plant of Rome, N. Y., and distributed to them on Sept. 17, according to Upstate New York and Vermont District Supervisor Max Wester.

During July and August of 1948, the union launched an organizational campaign directed at the Somerset workers. The company charged with infringing their employment that unions within the plant would be discharged if they persisted in their organizational activities. In October the company violated the National Labor Relations Act by actually discharging a number of workers and locking out others who had joined the ILGWU.

The union immediately filed charges against the company with the National Labor Relations Board and, after many conferences, a hearing was held in Rome. The subsequent decision of the board upheld the union's claims and declared the firm guilty of violating the rights of its employees. Shortly thereafter, the company closed its Rome mill.

The case was brought to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals which upheld the NLRB decision. The company then appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court and petitioned that the verdict of the district court be set aside. Once again the union's position was affirmed when the nation's highest tribunal upheld the lower court's decision.

Included in the \$21,000 were some individual checks of more than \$1,000. The largest single sum, \$1,791.32, was presented personally to Katherine Salkstein by Supervisor Wester.

The union is asking that a temporary injunction be issued against the ordinance until further hearing show whether or not this local law is legal.





Both Sides. Bob Siegmans, garment employer of Kansas City, and Shop Chairlady Florence Stevens look the picture of amiable labor-management relations at recent installation of Kansas City union officers.



Bonanza. Katherine Szalksi, one of 71 former employees of Somerset Classics in Rome, N. Y., receives check of \$1,787.32 from Upstate Supervisor Max Wasler. Amount is part of \$21,000 in back pay collected by union for all 71 former Somerset workers. (See story, Page 5.)



Spoilers. These Hyman Co. workers in Philadelphia turned the tables on their employer when he attempted to escape wage award of arbiter by resigning from association. Workers quickly struck, forcing test case, and won all their demands when impartial chairman upheld their right to walk out. (See story, Page 9.)

Unanimous. Shop chairladies and chairman of Local 91, Children's Dressmakers, signify their overwhelming endorsement of demands which local will present to employer association during up-coming negotiations. Union terms include 35-hour week and wage boosts.



Endorsement. Michael De Vito (left) in running again this year gets promise of support from Local 222 Business Agent Frank Begotte and COT Manager George Bickel.

JUSTICE SPECIAL FEATURE 1

The Day's Work Before The Day's Work

Every weekday morning close to 200,000 garment workers in New York go underground and head for the heart of the city. These ILGWU members converge on the garment center from the outlying boroughs—from Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens—using the nation's largest municipally owned and operated transit system.

New Yorkers daily put more than 4,000,000 fares into the turnstiles of the IRT, BMT and IND lines, which have a combined route of 230 miles. Fare tokens buy passage on the trains of linked cars which, in rush hours, are jammed from the time they leave their starting stations. As they move toward their downtown terminals, the trains pick up new loads of human cargo at each station stop. Men and women are pushed into the cars with no regard for comfort or decency.

For garment workers, who must bring alertness, skill and speed to their work, the morning trip is a costly ordeal. The crush in the cars can drain as much energy as the day's work itself. Only the first few passengers get seats; soon there are no straps left from which to hang; vertical poles are beyond reach. The crowding, in summer months, makes the heat unbearable; after the buffeting, discomfort and embarrassment the shop is a welcome relief.

Industrial psychologists and engineers agree that fatigue is among the worst blocks of high productivity. The worker compelled to suffer the indignities and discomforts of the subway ride often arrives at the shop in a condition of fatigue, with nerves frayed and with health adversely affected to a degree that no one has dared estimate.

Fatigue induced before the day's work starts is a direct charge on workers' earnings. It is the subsidy the New York garment worker and her co-workers in other industries pay for municipal mismanagement of the subway system. For garment industry employers it means a subtle brake on morning-hour production.

For all of this New Yorkers pay 15 cents (in tokens) a ride, a boost made under the regime of the present mayor. His predecessor, Mayor O'Dwyer, killed the city's traditional nickel fare in the summer of 1950.

In two years the subway fare has tripled. But there has been no parallel improvement in the management of the subways. Clearly, that much desired change will come only when a city administration dedicated to clean, independent conduct of city affairs is put into office. In supporting the Liberal Party ticket of Halley-Canudo-Mellen workers of the great metropolis are moving to achieve this goal.



END EXP.

IRT SUBV



NO TRAINS LEAVING THIS STATION FROM
TO 9:30 A.M. AND 4:28 P.M. TO 6:25 P.M.
DEPART MYRTLE OR DE KALB AVE. STATIONS
SATURDAYS P.M. SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

New L. A. Cloak Payers Wages, Welfare Payments

Members of all locals of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board will receive a cost of living wage increase and other substantial gains under the recently-negotiated extension of the collective agreement with the employers' association, it was announced by Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast Director, and Laidor Stenzer, manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board. The agreement, which was to expire on April 30, 1954, has been extended until April 30, 1957.

A wage increase of \$1 a week for all workers in the major crafts and \$1 a week for all miscellaneous workers is the major gain in the new contract. The employers also agreed to increase their contributions to the Vacation, Health, Welfare, and Retirement Funds by another 1 per cent, bringing the total contribution to 7 1/2 per cent of pay-roll.

The most marked improvement in the extension were won by the miscellaneous workers. Recognized by the employers only five years ago, the miscellaneous trades have made steady gains. The new agreement shortens their work week on Aug. 1, 1954 from 40 to 37 1/2 hours, while on Aug. 1, 1955, the work week is reduced to the 35-hour work week.

perilla in the coat and suit industry. The two step reduction of the work week will be effected without loss of pay for the miscellaneous workers. Another substantial gain for the miscellaneous workers is their inclusion for the first time in the Retirement Fund.

Ban Bias

In line with the opposition of the union and the employers to discrimination of any kind, the new agreement contains a specific provision which prohibits discrimination against any worker for reasons of race, religion, or nationality. This clause places the ELGWU and members of the industry firmly on record in favor of fair employment practices.

Disputes over the new contract were settled after a period of four months and were conducted in

the atmosphere of cordiality and co-operation which prevails in coat and suit industry labor-management relations. Union negotiators were led by Vice Pres. Otto, Manager Stenzer, and Basil Preisberg, union attorney.

Membership ratification of the proposed extension came on Dec. 24 at a special general membership meeting of Cloak Joint Board Local 62, 64, 66, 67, and 68. The membership listened to reports from Otto and Stenzer, and after a thorough study of the terms of the contract extension, overwhelmingly voted to accept the report. Commendation and appreciation were also voiced by the membership to the union leadership for its efforts in securing the increase and the new fair employment practices for the miscellaneous workers.

Nation's Home Building Down Despite Hike in Interest Rates

In a recent public opinion poll, all sections of the country except one listed the "housing shortage and slump" as either the third or fourth major problem the nation faces today.

Prospects for new housing were brightest in February when the annual rate hit a peak of 1.7 million starts but the decline has been steady since then. In August it dropped to 976,000, a fall of 76 per cent or \$23.000 units.

On the basis of 1952 year's eight months of housing activity and current applications for government mortgage insurance, it appears that the annual number of private housing starts will fall below one million for the first time since 1949.



The Home and Housing Finance Agency stated in 1951 that the United States was building 1.7 million new housing starts each year in the 1920s to ease our housing shortage. In its 1953 report HEFA confirmed this estimate despite the decline in new family formations. The nearest we came to this figure was 1.2 million in 1950 with both public and private construction spurred on by the Taft-Henderson-Wagner Housing Act.

HEFA Administrator M. Cole told the American Bankers Assn. meeting in Washington of his concern over the decline in home production. The drop, he reminded them, followed the rise in interest rates for home mortgages.

Interest rates on government securities were originally increased by the Administration in February as part of its "hard money" program. In April rates were upped 1/4 per cent on government guaranteed home loans for veterans and 1/2 per cent for others.

The nation's mortgage bankers had long promised that more mortgage loan money would become available for veterans' housing if they would see an increase in interest rates. The volume, however, has not increased.

From the banker's viewpoint one of the problems he faces is that an increased number of housing starts could lead to overcapacity and lower prices thereby undermining the value of the mortgages he holds. Scarcity of dwelling units, however—in the absence of rent controls—has resulted in a sharp rise in rent increases. To date in 1953, rents have risen 6 per cent over 1952 levels.

Several days before Mr. Cole's speech to the bankers, President Eisenhower set up a 20-member committee to recommend a housing policy for the Administration.

Nine of the 20 committee members are associated with the banking industry. Three members are in the real estate business. Four are in the building field. These three groups are often referred to as the "real estate lobby." In addition, two members represent labor, one veterans and one is a housing development official.

W. F. Johnson, executive director of the National Housing Conference, made this appraisal of the committee:

"With three or four exceptions the members of the committee, by their record, appear to be against positive housing legislation as was advocated by Senator Taft and Wagner. There are minority groups represented on the committee despite the fact that HEFA has stressed the severity of their housing problem, no welfare representative on the official public housing representative and no officials of the cities and states."

Nevertheless, President Eisenhower stated that he has every expectation that this committee will develop a series of recommendations which "will clearly identify the proper role of the Federal Government" in the housing field and "will outline more economical and effective means" of solving the housing problem.

—Public Affairs Institute

Chi Embroidery Renewal Nets Wage Hikes for 500

Contract negotiations between Chicago Embroidery Workers' Local 212 and the Pleating, Starching and Embroidery Manufacturers' Assn. were concluded successfully last month when the employers' group agreed to accept the third wage hikes for 500 workers in sixteen shops. Vice Pres. Hattie Biala announced.

Major provisions of the two-year pact give 15 cents an hour increase to all men and piece workers as of Sept. 14, and raise minimum wage rates by 10 per cent. A retirement fund was established for the industry in January, and the 35-hour work week and health benefits have been returned to the grade for some time.

Local 212 Manager George Paris noted Biala's role in the negotiations and expressed satisfaction with the terms of the new agreement.

Atlas Pact Signed

Major improvements were also won by Chicago Local 54 in negotiations with the Atlas Railroad Co. Atlas workers received wage boosts of 10 per cent for cutters, a per cent for other experienced unit workers, and a 5 per cent raise in the minimum wage for unskilled workers. Apprentice cutters will receive a 10 per cent increase of \$1.40 an hour with steady increases thereafter. A new vacation plan grants vacations of up to two weeks, and the employer has also agreed to raise his contribution to the Health Fund in 1 1/2 per cent of payroll.

General Organizer Harry Ruffer, who conducted the Atlas negotiations, announced that talks with the two other Chicago railroad shops — Oscar Meiser Railroad and the Railroad — are in progress and no agreement is in sight yet. The union is prepared to call out the Meiser and Union workers if the employers continue to stall on contract terms. Ruffer and Vireen, Biala declared.

The expiration of contract in the Chicago shoemaking and industry and in the ladies' tailors trade has opted the two for a new agreement in these sectors. Local 212 leaders want the 35-hour work week established for shoemaking tailors, with an increase in minimum wage scales. Ladies' tailor of Local 208 are demanding a wage increase and various fringe benefits.

At Their Service

Wanda Lee Bowden is one of the New South Wales' Peppin business agents. Her duties include servicing of Malabar, Taylor, Poplar, B.P. and Salem shops.

Retirement Hearings in Local 62 Start Oct. 15

Applications for retirement pensions for members of Local 62, Union Department and Regime Workers, will be received from Oct. 15 to Nov. 30. Manager Louis Stuberger announces.

To be eligible, members must be 50 years of age or over, an ELGWU member for fifteen years, and employed in the industry for the past five years. Applications must be made in person at the union's headquarters, 423 Broadway.

Application will form the Union group of Local 62 members retired since the institution of payments from the fund.

Give to AMERICAN RED CROSS

150 IN N. Y. DRESS GET BENEFIT CHECKS UNDER NEW SYSTEM

The new procedures which New York dressmakers must follow in order to receive sick benefits are operating even more smoothly than had been anticipated, according to information compiled after the first meeting of the Union Medical Board. The board approves applications filed through the four constituent local unions affiliated with the New York Dress Joint Board.

At its first session, the board approved sick benefit payments to more than 150 dressmakers who had applied through their local unions their benefit checks already are in the way. On some applications the board desired further information from the attending physicians, who on others the board requested the applicants to come in for re-examination by a physician at the Union Medical Center.

Dressmakers are again cautioned to follow these seven step procedure to report your illness immediately:

1. either through your Shop Chairmen, or by telephone or letter to the Sick Benefit Department of your local union—Local 18, 22, 46 or 51.
2. Your union will then mail you Sick Benefit Form for you and your doctor to fill in.
3. Fill in Part 2 of this form.
4. Your doctor must answer the questions on Part 2 about your illness and its treatment.
5. Mail this form to the union 30 days of age or over, an ELGWU member for fifteen years, and employed in the industry for the past five years. Applications must be made in person at the union's headquarters, 423 Broadway.
6. Application will form the Union group of Local 62 members retired since the institution of payments from the fund.

Dressmakers: remember that no benefits can be paid until you send the sick benefit form back to the union office!

MONTREAL DRESS SEEKING BROADER HEALTH BENEFITS

The Montreal Dressmakers' Union has called for a conference with the Dress Manufacturers' Guild in that city with the aim of liberalizing payments to members for loss of Health Fund and setting a date for the start of pensions from the Retirement Fund. Vice Pres. Bernard announces.

The dress union has contended that the Health Fund reserves to existing at a rate fast enough allow increases in benefit payments to members. Union leaders also want a softening of some of the fund's stricture regulations so as to enable them to spread the benefits more widely.

Some of the specific demands of the union include: raising of maternity benefit to \$50; payment of 25 per cent of hospital expenses, up to \$100; extension of the list of general diseases for which compensation may be made; increasing the tuberculosis benefit from \$100 to \$200; elimination of provisions which exclude gross accidents from the list of eligible women's diseases.

Payments to retired members will start this fall. For the year, under another proposal which the union will submit to the employer group at the same conference.

CARE Address Changed

CARE, the nationally-based organization which made post-ages and gifts to needy persons throughout the world, announces a change of address for its headquarters office. Those wishing to make contributions or send post-ages and gifts to needy persons should write to CARE, 200 E. Madison, Chicago, Ill. 90001. The new number is 200 E. Madison, Chicago, Ill. 90001.

35 HRS., PAY HIKES PROPOSED BY ILG IN FOREST CITY TALKS

Improvements in wages and hours for employees of the Forest City Manufacturing Co. of St. Louis, Mo., were proposed by Southeastern Union affiliates at a conference with the firm held on Sept. 15.

Union demands included reduction of weekly working hours to 35, wage increases for all workers, health and welfare benefits, and improved working conditions. Experienced workers, established average hourly earnings for glass workers and improved working conditions in health and welfare conditions.

Representing the union were Vice Pres. Meyer Perlman, and Local 212 President John Carson and a committee of workers.

'89ers Approving Dues Increases at Branch Meetings

The membership of Italian Dress-makers Local 88 is giving overwhelming endorsement to the recommendation of the local executive board and general council for an increase in dues in a series of meetings currently being held throughout the city.

Unanimous approval for the increase was voted at the three membership meetings held last month of the Harlem District, Williamsburgh District and Bronx District. Local 88 leader Louis Antonelli and Joseph Placinto, Valerina Gola and Peter Licant, respective managers of the districts, addressed the meetings.

The new dues schedule would increase the rate of minor officers by 40 cents a month, operators, specialty machine operators, sample makers and drapers by 50 cents, and pressers by one dollar.

The remaining membership meetings to vote on the dues increase will be held as follows: Brownsville-East New York: Oct. 6, at Melrose Chateau, 1880 Pitkin Ave., Bklyn.; Pressers: Oct. 7, at Hotel Diplomat, 43rd St. and Avenue of Americas; Affiliated: Oct. 13, at Hotel Diplomat; National: Oct. 14, at Hotel Diplomat; Popular: Oct. 15, at Hotel Diplomat; New York: Oct. 20, at Memorial Temple, 30th St. and 14th Ave., Bklyn. All meetings are scheduled for 8:30 P.M.

NORTH EAST

Mack Kahn Picket Line Staying Solid

The 1000 workers involved in the strike against the Pennsylvania and New York plants of the Mack Kahn Co. are maintaining their solidarity in the face of repeated but unfulfilled promises by the firm to meet with them for contract negotiations.

Preliminary conferences have been held between company head Mack Kahn, ELGWO Pres. David Dubinsky and Vice Pres. David Glavin, Northeast Department Director. Although it is willing to meet with the union's top officials, the firm has opposed moves to open the conference to the membership, an action necessary for any settlement.

Meanwhile, the union's organizational campaign has been extended from the strike site of Elmhurst and Wilkes-Barre, Pa., to the firm's New York City headquarters. Six of the company's pretty Pennsylvania workers alleged in Mack Kahn manufactured bathing suits picketed the firm's 91th Avenue executive offices on Sept. 17.

Sentences Dropped

As the six picketers decorously marched in front of the building, startled and curious pedestrians crowded about them to read their picket signs, which chanted: "Mack Kahn Makes Highest Quality Garments At Lowest Possible Pay" and "Mr. Kahn—Not A War Of At-

trition But Peace And Union Recognition."

The six picketers were Florence Howard, Anna Mae Steir, Irene Dawick, Rose Marie Conant, Nancy Dolgan and Deborah Herik, all from Pennsylvania.

The bathing beauty parade ended when city policemen arrested the picketers on the charge of being "improperly attired." Police warned them to the West 95th St. station where they were booked and then released after bail was posted.

Sentence was suspended the following day in Magistrate's Court.

But the firm's offices continued to be picketed. This time a striker dressed in an old-fashioned bathing suit which abundantly clothed her from neck to ankles carried a sign reading "Out of Date—Like Pies'ers' Wages." The firm manufactures beachwear bearing the nationally known "Pies'ers" label.

Pa. Drive Continues

The Pennsylvania Office of Organization continues its effective operation in the strike bound area. The Pennsylvania plants have not operated during the six week long strike and community activity and interest in behalf of the strikers runs high.

According to Director Gimpel, the union will continue to employ all legal methods to gain union recognition from the firm and to begin negotiations. The union has not merely exhausted the legitimate means at its disposal, he stated, and, if the firm's attitude makes it necessary, the union will embark on a campaign to inform the garment merchandising trade about the unsatisfactory conditions which prevail at the Mack Kahn plants and the uncertainty of receiving merchandise from the company. He promised that, if such devices were used, information would be directed to the retail trade through advertisements in national publications, store demonstrations and other methods.

Phila. ILG Foils Plan to Escape I.C. Wage Award

The withdrawal of twenty-four firms from the Philadelphia Waist and Dress Manufacturers' Assn. in an attempt to escape the wage increases recently ordered by the impartial chairman has been effectively countered by the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board, which now has brought most of the recalcitrant shops under terms of the collective agreement.

Quick action was taken by Manager William Rans when it was learned that the twenty-four firms refused to go along with the impartial chairman's award. Several employers were declared in arrears and charges were filed against one as a test case.

The case was easily won by the union. Impartial Chairman George W. Taylor ruling that in rejecting the agreements between the association and the union, Rans, Inc. had violated the clause under which the union has the right to strike. The picket line at the Rans shop continued for a week, until the employer finally decided to abide by the chairman's decision and rejoin the association.

Union Stands Pat

Even after one of the recalcitrant firms decided to form a separate association, through which they attempted to wriggle out of the award from the union, ELGWO leaders stood firm against this maneuver, with the result that an agreement was signed with the new group which incorporated the impartial chairman's decision, including wage increases, the 40-hour work week and extension of the agreement for three years.

Action against other firms was equally rewarding. The Benjamin Noble shop was put on strike, an action which met with the endorsement of the association of the workers. Noble had one of the lowest hourly wage rates in the city. Only after the firm agreed to wage adjustment in Sept. 15 did the workers return to the plant.

The Little Charnier shop was put on strike by the union when it refused to honor a prior settlement. During the weekend it was learned that the firm had resigned from the Dress Manufacturers' Assn. but after negotiating with union officials the employer signed a supplementary contract settle-

ing the same terms as the collective agreement.

Mitzi Ups Rates

The large Mitzi Dress firm responded to Philadelphia plant after a shutdown of several weeks when union leaders threatened to call a walkout at all of the company's Pennsylvania shops. Piece rates will be improved and sewing operations migrated under the new agreement.

Achance to the master agreement was also obtained from the Philadelphia Dress Co. and Pal Mor, Inc. after the firm was halted before the impartial chairman and the second was hit with a work stoppage.

GLOAK BENEFITS IN LAST FISCAL YEAR TOTAL \$4,500,000

Almost \$4,500,000 in health and vacation benefits was distributed to the cloakmakers in the New York metropolitan area during the fiscal year June 1, 1962 to May 31, 1963. It was announced by General Manager and officers together.

A detailed report by Murray S. Koller, administrative secretary of the Cloak Joint Board and Director of the Health and Vacation Fund, shows that \$1,626,288 was distributed in annual vacation benefits during this period. Ailing members received a total of \$1,626,288 in various forms of health benefits.

The weekly disability benefits paid to 22 employees during the largest single item, amounting to \$642,288. Other health benefits included hospitalization, surgical allowances, dental benefits, and medical services, payments toward the purchase of eye glasses and dental.



Pickets Brave Chilly Weather ...



... Until Mercifully Escorted ...



... Into Warm Police Station

The International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (AFL) used the oldest gimmick in the publicity game—cheese—to dramatize its current dispute with Artistic Foundations, Inc., makers of ladies' undergarments and swimwear.

Importing a box of girls from two street kids of the company in Pennsylvania, the union dressed them in swimsuits and set them to picketing.

The firm's showrooms on New York's Fifth Avenue. The union was counting strongly on a quick arrest by New York police to forestall goose-bumps on the pickets from the chilly weather. But the police, tipped off to the wrong address, arrived late with the paddy wagon.

Nearly blue with cold, the scantily clad pickets got mercy and a suspended sentence from the city magistrates.

CUTTERS COLUMN

Local 10 Officers Press Drive Against After-Hours Work

Following up the recent disciplinary measures against several cutters who had inserted advertisements in Women's Wear offering their services "nights and Saturdays" and on "weekends" in violation of the 35-hour work week, Manager Moe Falikman sent a communication to the editor of that paper, pointing out that such advertisements represent efforts by individuals to circumvent the established work week in the industry but also as a newspaper with high standards of integrity and responsibility, we are certain that they will not print such advertisements.

The latter stated that "the garment industry, after many years of strife and struggle, finally wiped out the evils of the sweatshop and established standards of industrial union support not only by the industry but by enlightened employers." One of the most important of these standards, it was noted, was "the five-day 35-hour work week which permits workers a needed measure of rest and recreation and, at the same time, promotes a more equitable distribution of work, diminishing the impact of unemployment in our seasonal industry."

Ask Ad Ben

"Knowing the splendid reputation of Women's Wear," the letter continued, "not only as an authoritative news source on the garment

**REVUE PROCEEDS BUY
STATION WAGON FOR
CRIPPLED CHILDREN**

The Allentown, Pa., District Council presented \$1,650 to the Le-

High County Crippled Children's Society on Sept. 14 for a station wagon which will be used to transport the society's patients. The funds represent part of the proceeds of the union's musical revue "Hallelujah!" which was presented before community audiences in Allentown last April.

**LOCAL 10
MEMBERS**

**REGULAR
MEETING**

MONDAY
Oct. 26
Right after work
MANHATTAN CENTER
34th Street and 8th Avenue

improve working standards and conditions, it could not determine whether people inserting advertisements "are bound either morally or legally to any work code through union membership" and "as long as their ads violate no federal, state or local law or contain nothing fraudulent or libelous, we do not see how we or any other publisher could fail to accept them."

In an event, Local 10 intends to keep a close watch on this as well as any other means of evading the union's regulations on working hours. As to several individuals who were found to have inserted such ads and sought work knowing that this constituted a violation of the established 35-hour week, they were fined \$100 to \$200 after a hearing in which they had a full and fair opportunity to defend

REVUE PROCEEDS BUY STATION WAGON FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

The Allentown, Pa. District Council presented \$1,650 to the Lehigh County Crippled Children's Society on Sept. 14 for a station wagon which will be used to transport the society's patients. The funds represent part of the proceeds of the union's musical revue "Hallelujah!" which was presented before community audiences in Allentown last April.

Other community and charitable organizations which will benefit from the union's musical revue are the Heart Fund, the Cancer Crusade, the Lehigh County Community Chest, the Lehigh County Tuberculosis and Health Society, Saint Joseph's Hospital in Reading, Pa., and the program for adoption of a European war orphan. The proceeds of the show totalled \$3,200.

Arkin, Pres. of
Workmen's Circle,
Dies in New York

Arkin, Pres. of Workmen's Circle, Dies in New York

Leon Arkin, president of the Workmen's Circle and national advertising manager of the Jewish Daily Forward, died on Sept. 30 in New York. Arkin came to this country at the age of 16 and worked continuously in civic and philanthropic enterprises. Jewish leaders in all walks of life are marking his death as a great loss.

The following telegram was sent by Pres. Dubinsky to Nathan Chaimin, General Secretary of the Workmen's Circle:

"Profound regrets at untimely passing of your president Leon Arkin. He was selfless in his devotion to community, fraternal and labor causes for which he worked tirelessly. Together with you we mourn his loss and extend to Workmen's Circle and his family our heartfelt sympathies."

Retiree's Letter Praises Antonini For Humaneness

At the recent dinner celebrating his 70th birthday First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini heard many messages of congratulations read. The one he quoted in his own address follows:

"Dear Mr. Antonini,

"I want, too, to take this occasion to express to you, and to all those who cooperate with you, my gratitude for the retirement benefit we receive upon reaching the age of

"You have no idea how much comfort and security we feel every month when we receive that wonderful check for the amount of \$30. It is like a gift sent from heaven. We must be grateful to men of good will like you for what they do for mankind. Such men should live forever for the good of the world. I shall pray God for them."

"I consider myself a pioneer of the union, having worked in the Gilsted Shop, on 6th Ave., in the years 1911 and 1912. We were making evening gowns. I remember there was a big union meeting to which I participated, although the union was for me something entirely new at that time. I had just arrived from London, and before had worked in Turin, where I was born, and in France. In all those places, I never had heard of the union. Now I realize what a beautiful thing the union is, and how well spent were the dues I paid for it."

"Fraternally,
Ebe Laurin
7 Glen Road
Yonkers, N. Y.

Friendly 'Foreigners'



Local 23 Schedules English Classes for Spanish Members

Local classes in English for Hispanics will begin on Monday, Oct. 3, at 6 P.M. The address is 23 West 28th St. Classes will be held every Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 P.M.

This will mark the fifth consecutive season that such classes have been conducted by the Skirtmakers' Union. The most advanced teaching methods are used in the course, and they have received the highest praise from the students.

Sunset

By MAX PRESS

The towers of Manhattan tremble
In the haze
Of light that lies along the
western rim;
The heat red brand of flame is
submerged in the bay,
The world grows very still and
strange and dim,
Stillness falls upon the world once
that from the sea
A shew walks its lone tale afar,
Shenly fades the day and the
evening chill comes on,
Slow falls the night all mist and
lump and star.

BOOK FRONT

Geography and

Geography and Time Spanned By New Novels

The current flood of fiction includes several novels that provide unique reading experiences. Four that we linked in the present crop deal with life in present-day America, life in the England of 2,000 years ago, life in Red-liberated Budapest and life at 65.

THE ADVENTURES OF AUGIE MARCH, by Saul Bellow (Viking Press, \$4.50) is the most unusual novel of the season. It is the rambling odyssey of Augie, a young man out of Chicago, who has the most unexpected adventures and meets the most intriguing people.

Mr. Bellow's book strings these encounters together with no overall pattern and makes the parts of the book greater than their sum.

The result is an exuberant glow that lights up these pages with a fine comic spirit. The drab and ordinary that Augie sees and gets to know in Chicago, in Europe, in Mexico are revealed by him to have unique qualities that make them startlingly individual. He is an itinerant champion of the individual; there are no masses in the chronicle of his romantic and enjoyable journey.

The England of 2,000 years ago is recreated with wonderful effectiveness in the pages of **THE DARK ISLAND** (Random House, \$3). The measure of author Henry Treece's achievement is his ability to make the reader feel deep concern for the problems of people who move in the misty regions of Britain's most remote history.

He tells the story of the Celts how they lived and fought and worshipped and how they were finally conquered by the invading Romans. In that distant time historical processes which we still recognize melded conqueror with conquered. In tracing the subtle way in which this happened in the lives of individual human beings Mr. Trevelyan has written a fascinating story with contemporary implications.

Michael Burn's **THE MIDNIGHT DIARY** (Lippincott, \$3.50) is a restrained study of life behind the Iron Curtain. Its stirring impact on the reader derives from the detailed way in which it pictures the implications of controlled living in the person of Irene Mannheim, who thinks of herself as a person of no

She was "liberated" from a concentration camp in Poland by the advancing Red Army and returned to the ways of "ordinary life" in Budapest. All of this Mr. Burn pictures with the authenticity of one who has himself seen the inside of a concentration camp. Devoid of easy heroics or physical adventure, the book is a penetrating study of integrity and endurance under dictatorship rule.

In **THE WEB OF TIME** (Harcourt, Brace and Co., \$3.50) Josephine Lawrence deals imaginatively with the problem of aging. An ironic aspect of the book, peculiar to our time, is its theme, which deals not with the destitution that was the handiwork of old age for centuries but with the threat of compulsory

JOSEPH GLAUSTON,
Business Manager
Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 28th day of September, 1953.
HIMMEL L. HANFORD, JR.
Notary Public
(My commission expires March 20, 1955)

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARNMENT WORKERS' UNION

CHALLENGE TO LEADERSHIP

IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN Federation of Labor convention last month, President Eisenhower admitted there are "a number of defects" in the Taft-Hartley Law. But he hurriedly added that he considers its enactment "a substantial contribution to the quest for sounder labor-management relations," and concluded that experience "has confirmed its essential soundness."

Through such double-thinking the Administration continues to defy the laws of physics. Since before it came to office it has shown a talent for being in two places at the same time. This lack of consistency may be a good formula for hitting high scores in popularity polls, but it is not a healthy ingredient of national leadership.

Mr. Eisenhower's friends insist that he is President of the entire people. They are correct. Unfortunately, he is also the captive of the Big Business tutors with whom he has surrounded himself. The policy they counsel has filled history books with resounding victories that turned into bitter defeats.

Even the Vice President of the United States, addressing the convention, indicated he understood that no administration can promise all things to all men and hope to survive. Yet, now, with the need for decisive leadership growing more insistent, Republicans show a lack of willingness or ability to perceive the dilemma between those horns they stand.

By boosting interest rates, the Administration has pitted home builders against bankers; the threat of a sales tax, by whatever name and at a time when the excess profits tax is allowed to die, ranges commerce against profiteer; cuts in defense appropriations in an era when Communist imperialism is armed with atomic age bombs provides a triumph for the budget-balancers against those who put the defense of freedom first.

So long as the Republican Administration pursues popular support by galloping off in all directions at the same time we can arrive only at disaster. The time has come for the head of that Administration to make up his mind.

THERE WAS NOTHING AMBIGUOUS or indecisive about the leadership displayed at the 72nd annual AFL Convention held last month in St. Louis. George Meany, also a first-time president, set the keynote in a straightforward address. As convention chairman, he focused the delegates' attention on the heart of each issue.

There was no equivocation in the support given to ex-Secretary of Labor Perkins after he told why he resigned; there was no hedging in the revocation of the charter of the criminal-infested New York section of the International Longshoremen's Association; there was no hypocrisy in the convention's approval of an ILGWU resolution calling for support of the German Federation of Labor in its struggle to state domination.

Under guidance of its new president, the American Federation of Labor has again demonstrated that it intends to fulfill the aspirations of America's workers with courageous policies and vigorous actions.

THE SUDDEN PASSING OF ERNST REUTER, Mayor of West Berlin, ends a career of valiant resistance to Communist intimidation that inspired hope and courage in the hearts of millions of Germans. He was an implacable foe who never missed an opportunity of showing the Communists, parked virtually on his doorstep, that he defied their force.

No small part of his effectiveness came from the fact that in his youth Reuter was himself an adherent of communism. He knew the enemy well, feared it and fought it better than most men do. Our government, while paying official tribute to his memory, traduces the cause for which he fought when it dismisses without explanation from the Foreign Operations Administration such useful experts as Phil Heller, whose work among the post-war German trade unions has helped build a democratic bulwark against the Communists.

Leadership and initiative such as Reuter provided are rare. As soldier and symbol in the fight for freedom, he will be missed.

"Collective Bargaining"



"Guess Which Hand!"



Sacrificing Our Security

By
Stuart Symington

Excerpts from the address by the U. S. Senator from Missouri, before the American Federation of Labor Convention in St. Louis.

THE key to our security in this age of atomic weapons and supersonic flight—air power. This is the consensus of our best military leaders. It is the conviction of that world statesman, Winston Churchill, as well as countless other experts here and abroad.

Not many weeks ago I sat in the Senate of the United States and saw a majority of my colleagues vote to reduce appropriations for our Air Force by more than five billion dollars.

Only a year before this same Senate had voted unanimously to build the Air Force to that strength which the military leaders of the Army and Navy as well as the Air Force had determined as essential to our security.

Now the Senate, as of last July, voted to withdraw from that position and accept something less.

What had happened in that 12-month period to change the minds of this great legislative body? Nothing of military nature. That was clear to one and all.

NO one in responsible position dared to claim that the risk of war had lessened. In fact, General Omar Bradley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, now retired from military service, emphasized our position when he said:

"I know of no intelligence which reveals any change of attitude on the part of the Soviet Union, or which would give us any reason to diminish, slow-down or stretch-out our preparedness effort."

General Bradley's analysis of the threat did not agree with the more optimistic judgment of the new Secretary of Defense.

Some of us repeatedly called attention to the discrepancy, and urged that Congress pursue the issue and learn the truth.

Our urgings were unsuccessful. The situation was never clarified—either for the Congress or the public.

General Bradley's analysis of the threat should have hung over the Capitol Building in Washington like an atomic cloud.

WHY, then, did my colleagues vote to cut-back our airpower?

I am convinced that many of them did not realize they were cutting it back.

I have proof for their position, because many Senators told me they were only voting for the cut as a result of the Administration's pledge that no combat planes were being cut out. They believed the Secretary of Defense and his spokesmen in the Senate that they told—over

and over again—that not a single combat airplane was being taken from the Air Force.

It is only a few weeks since the Eighty-third Congress adjourned. Now—the truth is there for all to see.

This month, 965 aircraft—748 of them combat aircraft—were eliminated from the Air Force program.

The F-84 fighter bomber can carry the atomic bomb. This plane is a major weapon for the support of our ground troops.

Four hundred and four F-84's have been eliminated.

The B-47, which can carry the atomic bomb, is our fastest and most effective jet bomber now in production. It is vital to our deterrent striking power.

One hundred and sixty-nine B-47's have been eliminated.

YET, the Congress and the Nation were promised by our Defense Secretary, and by his spokesmen on the Senate floor, that not a single combat plane would be taken from the Air Force program.

This breach of faith is not in the American tradition.

The Secretary of State recently declared that the United States was prepared to meet further Communist aggression with a bold show of military might—that we would not confine our operations to the immediate battlefield.

We would, he implied, carry any new war into the homeland of the aggressor.

This is an historical reversal of Teddy Roosevelt's classic advice—to speak softly and carry a big stick. Now the Secretary of State is speaking loudly, while the Secretary of Defense whittles away our big stick.

WITH our Air Force constantly being whittled down we can find little security in empty threats which cannot be supported by force of arms.

If we are not going to have enough power for our security, let our leaders tell us about it.

If we are going to fight communism with a balanced budget and sacrifice our armed strength in the process, let our leaders tell us just that.

We cannot honestly stand before the world and promise "a big stick" approach to further Communist aggression when our airpower—the only big stick we carry—is ever falling steadily behind the steel pipes laid out by the Soviet Union.